

Attorney Docket RSW920000124US1
Serial No. 09/912,570

Remarks

Claims 1, 3-6 and 8-12 stand rejected under § 103 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,006,264 to Colby et al., Applicants' Admitted Prior Art and U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0154279.

As amended, claim 1 now recites in pertinent part:

for each one of said plurality of servers, ~~creating and~~ storing in a local memory a configuration file ~~created by a server manufacturer~~ containing parameters including content-based rules pertaining to said server to be applied for configuring a load balancing scheme for a plurality of servers that include said server

Remaining independent claims 10 and 12 recite similar limitations. It is noted that Colby et al. teach in column 6, lines 45-47:

One database maintained by the CSD contains content rules, which are defined by the system administrator ***.

Nowhere do Colby et al. disclose, teach or suggest a server manufacturer creating a configuration file containing parameters including content-based rules. Nor does the Aziz published application disclose, teach or suggest this feature of the present invention. As noted in paragraph 30 of the publication of the subject application, this aspect of the present invention is advantageous because it eliminates the need for an operator of the load balancer to enter this information and further the operator of the load balancer does not need in-depth knowledge in order to properly configure the load balancer. Accordingly, it is submitted that U.S. Patent No. 6,006,264 to Colby et al., Applicants' Admitted Prior Art and U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0154279, whether taken singly or in combination, do not disclose, teach or suggest the subject matter of claims 1, 3-6, 8-12.

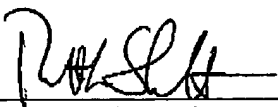
It is further submitted that claim 3 recites additional subject matter which further distinguishes that claim from the applied prior art. Nowhere does the Colby et al. patent or the other applied prior art disclose, teach or suggest providing configuration files each having a file path and name in accordance with a standard file path and naming protocol.

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With this paper, new claims 13-15 have been added. It is believed that these claims recite patentable subject matter for the same reasons noted above with regard to claim 1.

In view of the above remarks, applicants submit that claims 1, 3-6, 8-15 define patentably over the prior art. Early notification of allowable subject matter is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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